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25 May 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : CORONA/ARGON Briefing of Ambassador Stevenson 23 May 1962

REFERENCE : Memo for the Record from AC/DPD, Dated 22 May 1962; Subject:  
"Briefing of Ambassador Stevenson on CORONA, ARGON, T, and  
TKH [redacted]"

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1. Ambassador Stevenson was briefed by Mr. Lundahl and the undersigned on 23 May 1962 at NPIC on CORONA, ARGON, T, and TKH as suggested by the referenced document. In addition, Ambassador Francis Plimpton (U. S. - U. N.) and Mr. Leonard Meeker, Deputy General Counsel, Department of State, were similarly briefed.

2. Since time was short, major emphasis in the briefing was on the T-TKH aspect. Little, if anything, was said about ARGON and not very much about CORONA operations. The joint CIA-USAF nature of both IDEALIST and CORONA was stressed to the group present. Ambassador Stevenson was considerably impressed, and although Mr. Meeker was obliged to leave with Stevenson, he was scheduled for a fuller treatment of CORONA and ARGON by DPD on 24 May 1962. Ambassador Plimpton remained almost an hour after Stevenson and Meeker had left, going into space policy aspects of satellite reconnaissance with [redacted] Mr. Lundahl and the undersigned.

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3. I was able to inquire of Governor Stevenson if he had any views of the desirability of affording a similar briefing to [redacted] He said he thought there was every good reason to do this in principle, but that as to actual timing, he would like to reflect on this for a day or two and advise the Department (Tom Hughes, Intelligence and Research) who then presumably would communicate with us regarding Stevenson's final views. I explained to Stevenson that [redacted] [redacted] was fully briefed on the U-2 Project, and there seemed to be some

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interest [ ] regarding TKH briefings for him so that there might  
be a [ ] position in the event of a Soviet attack upon  
U. S. satellite reconnaissance efforts.

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JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.  
Assistant Chief, DPD

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